

BOROUGH OF ROWLEY REGIS



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

AND THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1941



FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.

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Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Old Hill, Staffs.
October, 1941.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for the year ending December 31st, 1941, in which is incorporated the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

As far as possible the efficiency of the Health Services has been maintained in spite of difficulties caused by shortage of staff, etc., due to war conditions.

In addition to the routine work of the Department, extra work was carried out in connection with the Civil Defence Casualty Service, and I again take this opportunity of thanking all the Civil Defence Volunteers who have given so generously of their time and energy.

I also thank all Members of the Council, and Education Committee for their help and consideration, my colleagues and staff for their help, co-operation and loyal assistance.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

FRANK ASKER,

Medical Officer of Health
and
School Medical Officer.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:—

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:—

IRENE D. F. C. HASTILOW, M.B., Ch.B. (Birm.),
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lon.), D.P.H. (Birm.) (Commenced
29th January, 1941).

Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time):—

F. N. ROBERTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (On Active Service).
A. M. DUFF, M.B., B.C.L., B.A.O. (Temporary).

Consulting Obstetric Specialist (part-time):—

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Aural Surgeon (part-time):—

C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Dental Officer:—

L. HOWARD THOMPSON, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector:—

ALEC LONGFELLOW, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.B.,
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's
Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Diploma of the
Institute of Public Cleansing, Honours in Plumbing and
Sanitary Science of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:—

W. WOOLDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate.

REGINALD HEATH, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

LEONARD COOMBES, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

GWILYM WILLIS, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate. (On
Active Service).

Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses):—

N. E. CHILTON, S.R.N., C.M.B., Q.N. (On Active Service).

T. BELLAMY, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C. (On Active Service).

A. E. HALLAM, S.R.N., C.M.B.

M. A. FELLOWS, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

W. H. BENNETT, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

A. M. GILLIVER, S.R.N.

N. E. McKEE, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Commenced 1st May, 1941).

M. W. COMER, S.R.N., S.C.N., R.F.N. (Commenced 1st
September, 1941).

Municipal Midwives:—

A. E. BIGGS, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Resigned October, 1941).
M. HAYWARD, S.R.N., C.M.B.
F. NORWOOD, C.M.B.
S. E. RANN, C.M.B.
M. A. ROSE, C.M.B.
J. M. STALEY, S.R.N., C.M.B., Q.N.
B. M. WEBBER, S.R.N., C.M.B.
S. F. WHITTALL, C.M.B.
H. M. GREPE, C.M.B.

Clerks:—

M. E. HARRIS (Resigned 30th June, 1941).	}	Whole-time jointly with School Medical Department.
M. FORREST (Commenced 1st June, 1941).		
C. BACHE		
E. D. PRIEST		
V. DUNN		
D. MORGAN	}	Whole-time Sanitary Inspector's Clerks.
D. M. WEBSTER		

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.
VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,828
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,235
Estimated mid-year, 1941	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,480
Number of houses inhabited (end of 1941) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,026
Rateable Value at December, 1941	...	...	...	...	...	...	£174,506
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1941, gross	...	...	...	...	...	...	£672 19s. 0d.
Estimated at 31st December, 1941, gross	...	...	...	...	...	...	£674 0s. 0d.
				Total	M.	F.	
Live Births: Legitimate	...	...	...	749	400	349	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	3	4	
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...				16.402
				Total	M.	F.	
Stillbirths	...	...	...	21	14	7	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)	...	...	...				27.77
Deaths	...	...	...	494	276	218	
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...				10.86

Deaths from puerperal causes (heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list):—

	Total	Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)
No. 29 Puerperal and Post-Abortion		
Sepsis 	—	—
No. 30 Other Maternal Causes ...	1	1.29
Total 	1	1.29

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births 	83.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	84.11
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 	—

Deaths from:—

Measles (all ages) 	4
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4
Diphtheria 	4
Scarlet Fever 	1

BIRTHS

The total births accredited to Rowley Regis during the year under review was 756, a decrease of 102 on the preceding year. The birth rate for the area was 16.402, which figure is higher than that of the whole country (Birth rate, 14.7). Of these 756 births, 7 were illegitimate (3 male and 4 female). The majority of births was attended by Municipal Midwives.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH IN THIS AREA.

CAUSE OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES	276	218	494
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	1	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	—	4
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	2	3
Diphtheria	2	2	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11	7	18
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	3	5
Syphilitic Diseases	1	2	3
Influenza	6	5	11
Measles	2	2	4
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	—	1	1
Ac. Inf. enceph.	—	—	—
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M), Uterus (F)	1	2	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	10	4	14
Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
Cancer of all other sites... ..	18	12	30
Diabetes	1	2	3
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	22	21	43
Heart disease	53	62	115
Other diseases of circulatory system	6	3	9
Bronchitis	20	15	35
Pneumonia	28	14	42
Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodennm	5	1	6
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	3	1	4
Appendicitis	2	—	2
Other Digestive Diseases	2	6	8
Nephritis	7	3	10
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	5	4	9
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	11	10	21
Suicide	2	—	2
Road Traffic Accidents	6	4	10
Other violent causes	19	4	23
All other causes	24	19	43
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—			
Total	38	25	63
Legitimate	38	25	63
Illegitimate	—	—	—

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE.

The Registrar General gave a total of 494 deaths for Rowley Regis in 1941, therefore the Mortality Rate was 10.86 with a corresponding rate of 11.97 in 1940. From the Registrar-General's short list it will be observed that "Heart Disease" was again recorded as being the leading cause of death in the district, accounting for 115 deaths—23.27 of the total.

The second most frequent cause of death was Cancer with 51 deaths, and third on the list is Cerebral Haemorrhage with 43.

ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

It is not necessary to deal with these matters in this report as they remain unchanged from the previous year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (a) Maternal Mortality: One Maternal death occurred during the year; the cause of death being certified as Post Partum Haemorrhage.
- (b) Infantile Mortality: There were 63 deaths in children under 1 year, giving a death rate per 1,000 live births as follows:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	82.35
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	82.35

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During 1941, Puerperal Pyrexia was notified in 6 cases, of which three were admitted to Hospital. The case rate per 1,000 is best expressed in relation to the number of births (live and still) registered rather than to the population; and when calculated on this basis, are as follows:—

Rowley Regis	...	...	7.9
England and Wales	...	...	11.91

MIDWIVES.

There are 8 Municipal Midwives practising in the area, and as in previous years, they worked under the supervision of the Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Routine visits of inspection were carried out, the bags and instruments examined and their registers and records inspected. One Midwife resigned during the year on account of ill-health.

Up to the 31st December, 1941, 10 notifications of intention to practise midwifery, were received.

Of the 836 cases dealt with in Rowley Regis in the course of the year, 751 were attended by the Municipal Midwives as Midwives, and 85 as Maternity Nurses, and 4 by private midwives. The average number of cases taken by each midwife was approximately 94.

Medical aid was sought either on account of the mother or infant in 234 cases.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Local Authority maintains a staff of 6 combined Health Visitors and School Nurses. Each Health Visitor is allotted a district.

Appended hereto is a table of visits made by the Health Visitors in 1941:—

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	16	10	26
Live Births	811	1348	2159
Children 1 to 5 years... ..	20	2555	2575
Still Births	17	—	17
Infant Deaths	19	—	19
Maternal Deaths	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	1	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	1
Polio-myelitis	—	—	—
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : County Council	25	284	309
Local Authority	6	28	34
Measles	373	16	389
Whooping Cough	68	—	68
Boarded-out Children ; County Council	—	4	4
Miscellaneous	880	48	928
	2242	4294	6536

Children Act, 1908.

No children were on the Register in 1941. The Medical Officer of Health is the person designated to receive the necessary notices, and the Health Visitors visit such children as come under the statute.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Four Infant Welfare Centres are provided and maintained by the Council; six sessions being held weekly. An aggregate of 13,760 attendances was made during the year, as compared with 14,590 in the year preceding. Two nurses and a doctor are in attendance at the Centres, and are assisted by Voluntary Helpers. I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the work undertaken by these ladies, and would like to say how much their services are appreciated by the mothers and staff.

PRE-NATAL CLINICS.

There are three Pre-Natal Clinics provided and maintained by the Council, in which this work is carried out. The statistics of attendances and work done at these Clinics are given below:—

No. of cases during the year	...	...	495
No. of sessions held	...	...	65
Total attendances	...	...	1261
Average per session	...	...	19

The advice given at the Clinics is largely of an educational nature and stresses the importance of general hygiene, suitable diet, and healthy mental attitude. Close co-operation is maintained with the medical practitioners and the midwives. Where necessary, cases are referred to the Consulting Obstetrician.

Facilities exist for providing dental treatment, extra nourishment, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—(1) WATER.

As in the previous report, the water supply, which is adequate and satisfactory, is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

There have been 24 samples of water taken from wells in the district. These are not in use as water supplies but were recorded in the event of emergencies. The samples, however, were unsatisfactory.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All new work is supervised by the Building Inspector, who works under the Borough Surveyor. General repairs under the Public Health Acts are done through the Sanitary Department.

Drainage work carried out through the Sanitary Department is as follows:—

No. of yards of new drains laid	...	236
New gullies fixed	... ..	11
New ventilation pipes fixed	... ..	1
New inspection chambers	... ..	5
No. of drains unstopped	... ..	178
Drains tested	... ..	9

In addition, the following work has been carried out:—

New urinal stalls provided	... ..	1
Privies abolished	... ..	2
Pails provided in lieu of privies	... ..	2
Additional W.C.s provided	... ..	13
Defective pails renewed	... ..	2
New piggeries built	... ..	5

3.—(1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

All existing privies are inaccessible to the Sewer.

The W.C., Ashpit and Cesspool accommodation in the Borough at the end of the year, December, 1941, is as follows:—

Wards.	No. of W.C's.	No. of Bins	No. of Privies.	No. of Pails.	No. of Cess-pools
Cradley Heath ...	2783	2735	4	15	1
Old Hill ...	2828	2856	7	8	1
Blackheath ...	1886	2098	—	—	—
Rowley Regis ...	3309	3650	16	27	12
Tividale ...	2149	2012	21	25	4
Totals ...	12955	13351	48	75	18

(2) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cesspool emptyings are carried out by the Surveyor's Department, with the gully emptying machine in conjunction with and at the request of the Sanitary Department. They are situated as follows:—

CESSPOOLS.

Premises.

- “ Briardene,” Oakham.
- “ Beulah,” Oakham.
- “ Braemar,” Oakham.
- “ Brookfield,” Oakham.
- “ Golf Club,” Oakham.
- “ Wellfield House,” Oakham.
- “ Del-garda,” New House, Darby’s Hill.
- Marler Bros., Perry’s Lake, Rowley Regis.
- “ The Dell,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
- “ Lyndale,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
- Diamond Cottages, Gadds Green, Rowley Regis.
- Two Cottages, Richards Quarries, Gadds Green.
- The Spiers, New Birmingham to Wolverhampton Road, Tividale.
- “ Pontymoile,” Birmingham to Wolverhampton New Road.
- “ Windymoor.” Darby’s Hill, Oakham.
- Smart, Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
- Cricket Field, Old Hill.
- Kendrick & Mole, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath.

DISPOSAL.

Tipping at Waterfall Lane definitely ceased in the middle of March, 1941, 922 loads having been tipped this year. Some loads were tipped down a pit shaft at the Knowle Colliery, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ loads at Warrens Hall Colliery.

From March onwards centralised tipping at Powke Lane Depot has taken place.

A 20-tons Weigh Bridge has been installed and as a Disposal Centre both for refuse and salvage the premises are repletè with modern equipment for exact costing.

At the end of the year the Garage premises were being modernised.

Two new freighters were ordered during the year, but one which was nearing completion was commandeered. The new one delivered had a 10.5 cub. ft. body as against 7 cubic ft. of the original model. This sizes proves more economical and reduced the number of vehicles required on the road as less journeys are required and consequently the output is greater.

By the end of the year, three of the freighters have been in continuous service for 10 years.

CLEANSING SERVICES.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1941.

Item	Particulars.	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.		COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.	
		(A) (3)	(B) (4)	(A) (5)	(B) (6)	(A) (7)	(B) (8)
(1)	(2)	(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.		(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.		(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
REVENUE ACCOUNT.							
1.	Gross Expenditure ...	5765 0 0	5282 0 0	1084 0 0	1052 0 0	6849 0 0	6334 0 0
2.	Gross Income ...	31 0 0	31 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	48 0 0	48 0 0
3.	Net Cost ...	5734 0 0	5251 0 0	1067 0 0	1035 0 0	6801 0 0	6286 0 0
UNIT COSTS.							
4.	Gross Expenditure per ton ...	7 4 ½	6 9 ½	1 4 ¾	1 4 ¼	8 8 ¾	8 1 ¾
5.	Gross Income per ton ...						
6.	Net Cost per ton ...	7 3½	6 8½	1 4½	1 3¾	8 8	8 0¼
7.	Net Cost per 1,000 population ...	128 16 6	117 19 5½	23 19 5½	23 5 1	152 15 11½	141 4 6½
8.	Net costs, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	475 5 2¼	435 4 6	88 8 9	85 15 8½	563 13 11¼	521 0 2½

- 1.—Total refuse collected in tons—15,694 tons.
- 2.—Population: Middle of 1941 (estimated)—45,480.
- 3.—Area (Statute acres)—3,828.
- 4.—Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—19.32.
- 5.—Number of houses and premises—12,065.
- 6.—Method of Collection:

Mechanical Vehicles 5	Percentage of Refuse collected 100%
-----------------------------	---
- 7.—Method of Disposal:—
Controlled Tipping.
- 8.—Average length of Haul—1½ miles.
- 9.—No. of Employees other than clerical:—
Collection—20. Disposal—4.

WASTE RECOVERY.

This work has expanded during the year according to the demand of National needs.

The premises at Powke Lane have been fully made use of and the ample space and cover provided has been invaluable.

An Electric Baling Press for tins, and a larger one for paper (both purchased the previous year) were installed and are rendering excellent service.

In August a County Salvage Drive was inaugurated in which Rowley Regis as a Borough took part, and a two-ton Bedford lorry was obtained and fitted with high sides and painted with suitable advertising matter. The slogan adopted, "SALVAGE OR SINK," has caught on very well.

A loud speaker and gramophone were fitted to this vehicle, and after the official send-off by the Mayor and Mayoress, the Chairman of the Health Committee, the Organiser of the W.V.S., and the Leader of the Girl Guides, a tour of the streets and a canvas of every house in the district was made within the allotted fortnight. Excellent results were obtained in material, but financially we were no better off owing to heavy expenses incurred to make the effort a success.

Apart from this, however, the imagination of the Public was stirred and it did help to keep the householders more salvage-minded with the resultant continuous even output.

My opinion is that whilst County Drives have played a useful part in educating the people in this war effort, National Appeals result in a far heavier response by those firms who have had the capacity to contribute the weightier ledgers and redundant material which is asked for.

The Women's Voluntary Service has rendered excellent service and on two occasions every house in the Borough has been canvassed, and handbills delivered. In addition to this, large bills with a gummed front surface have been distributed and stuck inside the windows of the houses. The W.V.S. has been most successful in this form of advertisement as at least one house in every 20 throughout the whole Borough exhibited at least one bill in the house or shop window.

The bills or posters were in large red block type letters with the words "PLEASE KEEP your Salvage out of the Dustbin," and "Put your Scraps in Pig Food Bins and maintain your Eggs and Bacon." The results were well worth the effort.

In addition to the above, on two separate occasions, every dustbin lid in the Borough had glued on to it a circular paper disc 6 inches in diameter with red letters with the following words "For Ashes Only. Keep your Salvage out," and "Salvage in the Dustbin is an offence against the War Effort. Are you Guilty?" Needless to say, the results were remarkable.

Further to all this, an alternative weekly collection of Refuse and Salvage was inaugurated during the early months and continued throughout the year.

This system of salvage collection is far in advance of the hanging of bags in the street for householders to put the paper in once per week, a method as unsightly as it is disagreeable.

A weekly collection from shops, offices and stores is also maintained.

Splendid results have also been obtained from Schools. The method is for children to collect paper and metal and take it to school. It is weighed daily and each child credited with the amount collected. Prizes to the children of each school have been awarded monthly in the form of Saving Stamps, and these have been presented by the Mayoress together with the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The Mayoress (Mrs. Card) has done wonderful work in this connection as up to 10 schools have been visited in one day every month awarding the prizes and instructing the children on salvage procedure.

Much praise is also due to the teachers, most of whom have given every possible help throughout the whole period.

Pen friends have also been made with our local school children in towns in the Yorkshire area.

Prizes of Saving Stamps have been awarded to the children totalling £22 8s. 6d.

Fortnightly visits to the tip and Salvage Disposal Depot have been arranged by the W.V.S. for groups of children from the various schools, and this has formed an interesting feature of our advertising campaign.

The estimated value of Salvage sales are as follows:—

			£	s.	d.
January	...	...	51	15	10
February	...	...	490	16	1
March	...	...	202	1	1
April	...	...	217	15	11
May	...	...	318	7	6
June	...	...	325	0	7
July	...	...	251	10	6
August	...	...	407	5	3
September	...	...	240	0	2
October	...	...	305	18	9
November	...	...	278	16	11
December	...	...	278	19	1
Estimated total sales ...			£3,368	7	8

The following are the amounts of waste material recovered and returned to industry:—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Waste Paper	...	...	387	0	2	7
Pig Food	...	...	320	6	0	0
Ferrous Metals	...	...	202	2	2	18
Non-Ferrous Metals	...	...	1	7	0	14
Baled Tins	...	...	70	5	0	0
Bones	...	...	7	8	3	4
Rags	...	...	8	3	2	0
Broken Glass	...	...	29	14	3	0
Bottles, Jars, etc.	...	...	494	gross, 3 dozen.		

Deputations from other Authorities have visited the District and have copied some of our methods.

The number of Communal Pig Food Bins in the district is 325, and these are collected three times per week. The Refuse and Salvage vehicles also collect household scraps from the houses on the weekly visits.

(3) SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

A.—THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR 1941.

HOUSES.

Recorded under the Housing Regulations:—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	...	—
Houses where defects were found to exist	...	—
Houses dangerous or injurious as to be unfit	...	—

Under Public Health Acts:—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	...	83
Houses where defects were found to exist	...	254
		— 337

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during the year 1941	...	...	...	...	...	337
RE-VISITS to houses for work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	917

SYNOPSIS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nature	No of Individual premises visited	Total Number of Inspections made
Shops Inspected under Shops Acts ...	99	533
Verminous Premises ...	192	213
Drains ...	271	479
Urinals ...	3	3
Slaughterhouses ...	19	308
Offensive Trades ...	1	4
Foodstores ...	415	1520
Stables and Animals kept ...	24	25
Piggeries ...	148	487
Factories ...	81	95
Bakehouses ...	26	154
Cowsheds ...	27	119
Dairies ...	21	70
Manure Pits ...	3	4
Van Dwellings ...	41	177
Carbide Stores ...	13	13
Petroleum Stores ...	118	135
Smoke ...	17	17
Infectious Disease ...	183	348
Cinemas ...	4	7
Complaints investigated ...	180	180
Defective Bins ...	182	496
Water Courses ...	7	7
Wells and Water Supply ...	10	75
Ice Cream Stores ...	1	1
Paraffin, Oil and Paint Stores ...	9	9
Schools ...	43	67

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS ... 1217

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DWELLING HOUSES:				
Defective roofs	43	52	35	87
Defective roofs of verandahs & coalhouses	7	5	6	11
Defective chimneys	13	49	28	77
Defective brickwork and joints	5	50	31	81
Defective and dangerous walls	2	8	4	12
Defective or no spouting	27	91	27	118
Obstructed spouting	1	—	—	—
External painting	1	—	—	—
Defective yard paving	14	49	27	76
Insanitary structures	3	10	4	14
Accumulations	16	9	—	9
Defective dust bins	228	232	3	235
Insufficient and insanitary ashpits ...	15	21	7	28
Dampness	1	54	21	75
Dirty dwelling houses	19	13	—	13
Dirty living rooms	8	59	19	78
Dirty bedrooms	14	78	37	115
Dirty staircases	1	26	12	38
Dirty pantries and cellars	—	13	6	19
Dirty floors	2	—	—	—
Defective staircases	1	17	10	27
Defective or no handrails	1	56	18	74
Defective floors	6	53	31	84
Defective and dangerous ceilings ...	4	6	3	9
Defective ceiling plaster	6	37	40	77
Defective wall plaster	14	89	50	139
Defective doors, casements and steps ...	6	48	45	93
Defective firegrates, brickwork and fire- grate mantles	7	56	31	87
Defective or no skirting boards	—	10	11	21
Defective window frames, fastenings, etc.	2	96	67	163
Defective sash cords	10	78	47	125
Fixed windows	6	30	15	45
Insufficient light and ventilation in dwell- ing houses	2	—	1	1
Insufficient light and ventilation in pantries	—	2	—	2

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective pantry sills and steps	—	2	—	2
No pantry accommodation	—	—	—	—
Water or sewage in cellars	1	1	1	2
Defective or no cellar grating	—	1	—	1
Insufficient coalhouse accommodation ...	1	9	6	15
Vervinous houses	36	32	—	32
Notices to carry out works after 7 days ...	—	—	19	19
Demolition orders	—	—	3	3
Notices to quit	—	—	2	2
Defects in hot water systems	—	1	—	1

WASHHOUSES:

Defective roofs	5	33	18	51
Defective chimneys	—	16	12	28
Defective brickwork and joints in walls ...	3	34	23	57
Defective and dangerous walls	1	2	3	5
Defective or no spouting	—	50	20	70
Dilapidated and dangerous washhouses ...	2	10	5	15
Dirty washhouses	7	22	11	33
Defective floors	—	33	17	50
Defective ceiling and dangerous plaster ...	—	3	8	11
Defective wall plaster	—	8	1	9
Defective doors, door casements and steps	—	43	22	65
Defective firegrates, brickwork, etc. ...	—	5	11	16
Defective window frames	—	17	9	26
Defective sash cords	—	1	—	1
Fixed windows	—	1	4	5
Defective washing boilers	6	5	2	7
Defective boiler fireplaces	6	21	11	32
Defective boiler brickwork	3	18	6	24
Defective or obstructed sink waste pipes	2	3	3	6
Insanitary or defective sinks	1	16	3	19
Insufficient water supply	3	4	1	5
Insanitary baking ovens	1	29	3	32
Foul and defective soft water cisterns ...	—	5	3	8
Burst service pipes	10	3	2	5
Defective sink sleeper walls	1	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DRAINS AND WATER CLOSETS.				
Defective roofs W.C.s, ashbins shelters	9	28	10	38
Defective and dangerous walls	—	4	6	10
Defective brickwork and joints	9	19	15	34
Defective or no spouting	—	16	5	21
Defective soil and vent pipes	3	4	2	6
Dirty water closets and drains	4	12	6	18
Defective floors	5	7	8	15
Defective ceiling and wall plaster	2	1	—	1
Defective doors, cases and steps	11	47	10	57
Defective flushing apparatus	30	28	11	39
Defective W.C. pans and joints	25	37	12	49
Obstructed W.C.s	7	4	—	4
Defective or no seats	11	25	16	41
Burst service pipes	23	19	4	23
Insufficient water supply	6	2	1	3
Insufficient drainage	2	—	—	—
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	2	16	5	21
Defective drains	30	22	2	24
Obstructed drains	48	31	3	34
Broken inspection chamber covers	6	7	—	7
Foul privies and pails	2	1	—	1
Defective pails	—	1	—	1
Defective roof of privy	1	—	—	—

FACTORIES.

Insufficient urinal accommodation	2	3	—	3
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	8	7	—	7
Insufficient water supply	2	1	—	1
Verminous	1	1	—	1
Dirty water closets	3	2	—	2
Defective flushing apparatus	5	—	—	—
Insufficient light and ventilation	3	—	—	—
Defective W.C. doors, fastenings, etc.	—	1	—	1
Insufficient screening (men)	4	2	—	2
No washing facilities	1	3	—	3

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.	No. of Defects remedied by			Total No. of Defects remedied
	No. of Defects found	Informal action	Formal action	
Dilapidated W.C.'s	2	—	—	—
No facilities for meals	1	—	—	—
Insanitary chain hearths	—	2	—	2
Defective and insufficient drainage ...	2	2	—	2
Defective roofs and chimneys	—	1	—	1
Insanitary pail closets	—	10	—	10

FIGGERIES.

Defective roofs	1	1	—	1
Defective floors	3	2	—	2
Insufficient drainage	5	4	—	4
Filthy	12	8	—	8
Accumulations	—	1	—	1
Defective manure pits	5	5	—	5

BAKEHOUSES.

Defective roofs	—	3	—	3
Defective brickwork joints	2	—	—	—
Defective floors	2	2	—	2
Dirty ceiling and walls	11	15	—	15
Defective window frames	5	—	—	—
Dirty floors	11	5	—	5
Dirty benches and utensils	3	6	—	6
Accumulations	3	5	—	5
Used for sleeping	1	—	—	—
Insanitary sinks	4	—	—	—
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	1	—	—	—
Insufficient washing facilities	3	3	—	3
Contravention of the Food and Drugs Act	—	3	—	3
Defective yard paving	2	1	—	1
Defective and obstructed drains	—	1	—	1
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	—	1	—	1
Dirty windows	4	1	—	1
Dirty storerooms	1	3	—	3
Defective wall plaster of W.C.	—	1	—	1
Insanitary structures in yard area ...	—	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
SLAUGHTERHOUSES.				
Dirty slaughterhouses	2	2	—	2
Dirty lairs	3	2	—	2
Defective and dangerous winding gear ...	1	1	—	1
STABLES AND ANIMALS KEPT.				
Dirty stables	2	3	—	3
Verminous premises	1	—	—	—
Accumulations	1	—	—	—
Nuisance from keeping animals	1	—	—	—
FOOD STORES.				
Verminous	1	1	—	1
Contravention of Meat Regulations ...	6	6	—	6
Defective roofs	1	1	—	1
Defective chimneys	—	2	—	2
Defective and dirty floors	33	33	—	33
No spouting	—	1	—	1
Defective ceilings	1	1	—	1
Defective window frames	—	1	—	1
Dirty utensils	2	2	—	2
Defective doors	—	2	—	2
Insufficient or defective paving	—	1	—	1
Dirty food stores	37	42	—	42
Dirty W.C.s	1	1	—	1
Contravention of Milk Regulations ...	—	1	—	1
Accumulations	2	4	—	4
Dirty refrigerator	—	2	—	2
DAIRIES.				
Dirty dairies	7	4	—	4
Dirty sterilising room	1	1	—	1
Defective floor	1	1	—	1
Accumulations	1	1	—	1
Dirty sterilising plant	1	1	—	1
Obstructed overflow pipe	1	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1941.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
Dirty refrigerator	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Dirty coolers, bottle stores and washing rooms, etc.	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Dirty refrigerator plant room	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
SMOKE NUISANCES	...	...	...	...	5	4	1	5
PETROLEUM STORES.								
Defective vent pipes	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Broken covers	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
COWSHEDS.								
Dirty ceilings and walls	...	...	...	...	9	13	—	13
Dirty floors and windows	...	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Dirty windows	..	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
VAN DWELLINGS.								
Occupying land without licence from Local Authority	...	...	...	...	7	18	—	18
SCHOOLS.								
Verminous	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Dirty rooms (cleansing after occupation by evacuees)	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
WATERCOURSES.								
Polluted	...	...	...	...

B. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1941.

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal).

The number of :—

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1940	253	
FORMAL NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1940	108	
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1941	484	
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1941, re Shops Act	1	
FORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1941 ...	15	
	—	861

C. THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1941, which were outstanding 31st December, 1940	221	
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1941, which were served during the year	379	
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1941, which were served during the year (re Shops Act)	1	
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1941, which were outstanding 31st December, 1940 ...	68	
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1941, which were served during the year	13	
	—	682
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1941 (For analysis below) :		
Formal	42	
Informal	137	
	—	179

COMPLAINTS.

Complaints of a general character were received during the year, numbering 318.

OUTWORKERS.

During the year 24 lists have been received containing 147 names. Six reminders were sent out to employers.

(IV.) SHOPS.

The Shops Act, in its entirety, is carried out by the Sanitary Staff, and the following activity is recorded:—

Shops inspected	...	99	Re-visits	...	434
-----------------	-----	----	-----------	-----	-----

One notice was served for serving customers after hours.

(VIII). ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. (a) (I) Council houses infested | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| (b) (I) Other houses infested | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| | | | | — 29 |
| (a) (I) Council houses disinfested | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| (b) (II) Other houses disinfested | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| | | | | — 29 |
2. Houses are disinfested by spraying with Zaldecide and fumigated with Cimex. New houses are gassed with Hydro-Cyanide where possible.
3. The work of gassing by Cyanide in houses is done by Contractors.

DETAILS OF PROSECUTIONS AND SUMMONSES SERVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

Date 1941	Place	Nature of Offence	Result
Jan. 8	Land rear of Hawes Lane, Rowley Regis	Occupation of land by tents and vans without licence ...	Fine £2, £3/3/0 costs, 14 days to move off land.
Jan. 29	No. 57, Halesowen Road, Old Hill ...	Contravention of Food & Drugs Act. Filthy walls, ceiling and doors of small food store in yard.	Fine £2
do.	do.	Accumulation of filth on floor of small food store	Fine £2
do.	do.	Accumulation of filth on floor, etc., of yard	Fine £2
do.	do.	Filthy walls, ceiling and doors of bakehouse	Fine £2
do.	do.	Accumulation of filth on floor, etc., of bakehouse	Fine £2
do.	do.	Accumulation of filth on floor, etc., of up-stairs food store ...	Fine £2
do.	do.	Filthy walls, ceiling and doors of up-stairs food store ...	Fine £2
Apr. 16	No. 330, Halesowen Road, Old Hill ...	General house defects	Costs £1/11/0. Order to carry out work within one month.
Apr. 16	No. 166, Ross, Blackheath	do.	do.
June 11	Haden Hill, Old Hill	Exposing for sale ice-cream from barrow without having name and address legibly and conspicuously displayed thereon	£2 fine. £4/14/0 special costs.

Costs
£5/5/0

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	337
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1254
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	—
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	254

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their offices	350
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	68
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	22
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	23
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—

In addition to the above, Notices were served on properties in respect of defective dustbins as follows:—

Preliminary Notices served	218
Preliminary Notices complied with	232
Legal Notices served	1
Legal Notices complied with by Owner	1
Legal Notices complied with by Local Authority ...	—

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 13 cowkeepers in the district occupying 26 cowsheds. The approximate number of milch cows is 153.

There are 2 Bottling Establishments for Sterilised milk and 1 for Pasteurised milk.

No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on Register, 31st December, 1941	299
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers on Register, 31st December, 1941	24
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Supplementary Licences granted:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	7
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	3

SAMPLING OF FOODS.

51 samples were taken for analysis by the County Authority acting for and on behalf of the Borough. Of these, 46 were genuine and 5 were adulterated. The details are as follows:—

	Samples	Genuine	Adulterated
Milk	39	34	5
Bacon	1	1 (Contained 215 parts per million of Sodium Nitrate)	
Butter	2	2	—
Cooking Fat	1	1	—
Tincture of Iodine	1	1	—
Lard	1	1	—
Margarine	2	2 (Contained 0.11 and 0.11% Boric Acid)	
Sugar	2	2	—
Tea	2	2	—
Totals	51	46	5

The following action was taken with regard to the adulterations:—

Article	Adulteration	Fines	Costs
Milk	28.3% added water. Solids-not-fat 6.16%. Fat 2.26% ...	£15 ...	£6/16/6
Milk	1.3% added water and a further 44.3% deficient in fat. Solids-not-fat 8.49%. Fat 1.65% ...	£15 ...	—
Milk	24.2% added water and a 3.6% deficient in fat. Solids-not-fat 6.61%. Fat 2.19% ...	£15 ...	—
Milk	48.1% added water. Solids-not-fat 4.57%. Fat 1.84% ...	£15 ...	—
Milk	3.8% added water ...	Letter of caution sent	

The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following particulars of bacteriological examination of milk samples taken during the year in the Borough:—

Specially designated milk:

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	35
Number satisfactory	...	...	...	33
Number unsatisfactory	...	...	...	2

Undesignated milk:

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	117
Satisfactory	...	...	...	97
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	20

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Pigs are being dressed for Government distribution at one slaughterhouse at Cradley Heath.

The following animals slaughtered in the district have been inspected during the year:—

Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	2
Pigs	...	...	...	1571
Goats	...	...	...	1

The undermentioned meat and food was condemned and destroyed during the year:—

Meat:	Weight (lbs.)
Pigs' carcasses	292
Pigs' heads	22
Pigs' lungs	215
Pigs' plucks	176
Pigs' livers	49
Pigs' hearts	29
Pigs' offal	49

Other Foods	Weight (lbs.).
Bacon	20
Sausages	251½
Lemons	127
Canned meat	12
Gammon	11½
Cooked meat	112
Eggs	1274
Fish cakes	19 tins
Milk	34 tins
Oranges	25½ cases

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SMALL POX.

No case of small pox occurred.

DIPHTHERIA.

The total number of cases notified in 1941 was 54, as against 95 in 1940. The number of deaths was 4, which was less than for the previous year. None of the patients who died had been immunised. During the year 624 children were immunised against diphtheria.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 67 cases during the year, from which 42 deaths resulted. The number of deaths was higher than in 1940, the comparable figures being 46 cases and 33 deaths.

SCARLET FEVER.

Fifty cases of scarlet fever were reported in 1941; this disease was less prevalent than in the previous year in which 95 cases were notified. 8 of the cases were removed to Isolation Hospitals, and the remainder were treated at home. There was one death in consequence of this disease.

CANCER.

The recorded number of deaths attributed to cancer and malignant disease shows a decrease of 6, being 53 against 59 for 1940.

TUBERCULOSIS.

18 deaths resulted from tuberculosis of the respiratory system and 5 deaths from other tuberculosis diseases, corresponding with 16 and 2 respectively in 1940.

Domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the health visitors, as follows:—

			1940		1941
Visits	...	...	58	...	31
Re-visits	...	...	417	...	312

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case was notified and admitted to hospital for treatment.

ERYSIPELAS.

Five cases were notified.

MEASLES.

683 cases were notified in 1941, from which 4 deaths occurred.

WHOOPING COUGH.

99 cases were notified, and 3 deaths occurred.

ENTERIC FEVER (including Paratyphoid).

3 cases of Paratyphoid (B) were reported in 1941.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and particulars of the work are contained earlier in the report.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

I. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) Age Groups of Children Inspected.

Routine medical inspections were carried out as far as possible during the year and most school departments were visited for this purpose. The children examined were entrants, intermediates, and leavers, i.e., as soon as possible after starting school, at the age of eight, and at the age of twelve.

All children found to be defective were re-examined unless examined in one of the code groups.

(b) The Board of Education's Schedule of Medical Inspection was used. The statistical particulars will be found in the tables at the end of the report.

II. FINDINGS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Of the 1,285 children inspected at the Schools, 577 were found to require treatment, i.e., 44.9%. The percentage in the three age groups was approximately as follows:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	53.82%
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	42.105%
Leavers	...	...	...	...	34.08%

This figure does not include children requiring treatment for malnutrition, uncleanliness or dental effects.

(a) Uncleanliness.

As might be expected, the majority of children inspected were found to be in a cleanly condition.

Vermin surveys were undertaken at intervals throughout the year in all the schools in the Borough. By reference to Table V, group II, it will be seen that 10,340 examinations (14,392 in 1940) were carried out during the year, and that 821 individual children (643 in 1940) were found to be verminous.

The following table shows the extent of uncleanness in the various schools throughout the Borough:—

School	Average No. of children examined at each survey	Percentage unclean
Cradley Heath Senior Mixed ...	233	10.73
Cradley Heath Infants' ...	172	7.6
Corngreaves Junior Boys' ...	207	.48
Corngreaves Junior Girls' ...	162	20.9
Corngreaves Infants' ...	140	6.43
Reddal Hill Infants' ...	73	6.16
Macefields Senior Boys' ...	104	2.9
Macefields Senior Girls' ...	120	10.0
Old Hill Junior Mixed ...	292	5.48
Old Hill Infants' ...	111	6.3
Rowley Regis Central Mixed ...	306	5.5
Wright's Lane Infants' ...	216	9.72
Blackheath Junior Mixed ...	336	5.95
Blackheath Infants' ...	259	6.95
Beeches Road Junior Mixed ...	221	6.8
Beeches Road Infants' ...	212	8.018
Rowley Regis Senior Boys' ...	330	1.82
Siviter's Lane Senior Girls' ...	278	3.165
Rowley Hall Infants' ...	305	5.573
Doulton Road Junior Mixed ...	245	12.24
Knowle Infants' ...	85	7.06
Tividale Mixed and Infants' ...	319	2.5
City Road Junior Mixed ...	290	8.62

(b) **Nutrition.**

By reference to Table II it will be seen that of the 1,285 children examined during the year, 331 were reported as being of excellent nutrition, 746 normal, 197 slightly sub-normal, and 11 bad.

(c) **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

All cases where at medical inspection the vision is found to be worse than 6/9, 6/9 are referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon for special examination. Cases with even so good a vision as 6/6, 6/9 are referred if there are any symptoms pointing to eye strain. External eye diseases are generally treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic, but, if necessary, are referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic.

(d) Nose and Throat Defects.

Cases of Chronic Tonsilitis and Adenoids form the bulk of defects under this heading. 126 cases were referred for operative treatment, and 273 cases were referred for observation. Other conditions of the nose and throat requiring treatment were referred to private practitioners.

(e) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

All cases are first referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic. Chronic or difficult cases are then referred to the Aural Clinic for further examination and treatment. There is a tendency on the part of some parents to regard running ears as a trivial defect with the result that nothing is done and the condition is allowed to become chronic. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that all cases of running ears should have treatment until the condition is cured.

(f) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

245 cases were found to be requiring treatment. The majority of these were cases of Postural Kyphosis, which can easily be corrected by remedial exercises.

There is no doubt that the provision of suitable desks and chairs would in a large measure prevent the occurrence of these cases.

(g) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

Cases of heart disease and rheumatism are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment, and in the intervals between periods of treatment are kept under observation at the Clinics.

(h) Tuberculosis.

Any cases of Tuberculosis—definite or suspected, discovered at Routine Medical Inspections—are referred by the School Medical Officer to the Tuberculosis Officer for examination, and if necessary, treatment.

(i) Dental Defects.

All the children are regularly inspected by the School Dental Officer so that dental defects discovered at Routine Medical Inspection are not recorded. Nevertheless, if the parents of children suffering from dental defects are present, opportunity is taken to point out the need for treatment and to urge them to give their consent to such treatment as the School Dental Officer may advise on the occasion of his next visit.

(j) Other Defects and Diseases.

Cases of other defects or diseases found to be in need of treatment are referred to private medical practitioners.

III. FOLLOWING UP.

All children found to be suffering from defects are re-examined at intervals by the School Medical Officers—in addition, visits are paid to the homes of the children by the School Nurses. The following figures show the amount of work carried out:—

Number of individual children attending clinics	...	573
Number of attendances made by the children	... ..	1399
Number of primary visits by School Nurses to homes		742
Number of re-visits by School Nurses	... ..	16
Number of attendances by Nurses at School Clinics	...	680

IV. ARRANGEMENT FOR TREATMENT.

There has been no change in the arrangements for treatment. (Sec Annual Report of School Medical Officer, 1940).

(a) **Uncleanliness.**

Education propaganda is carried out by means of the distribution of leaflets to parents on the subject of cleanliness.

Combs are provided at the Clinics for loan to parents for the treatment of children with verminous heads.

(b) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.**

The number of minor ailments treated during the year at Clinics was 248 (163 in 1940). Most of the cases were skin conditions, especially impetigo and septic sores, otorrhoea, blepharitis and trivial injuries, which would not have received treatment from private doctors had the Clinics not been in existence.

Most of the ordinary skin diseases are dealt with at the Minor Ailments Clinics, with very successful results, but the Education Committee has an arrangement with the Birmingham Skin Hospital for treatment of difficult cases.

An arrangement exists by which X-ray treatment of ringworm can be given at this hospital.

Cases of otorrhoea resistant to ordinary treatment are referred to the Aural Clinic.

(c) **Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.**

Ophthalmic Clinics were held at Carlyle Road Clinic, Mace Street Clinic, and Tividale Clinic.

Many minor cases of external eye diseases were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, but if they did not clear up within a short period they were referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic for further examination.

263 cases were examined during the year by Dr. A. M. Duff, the Authority's Ophthalmic Surgeon. They were classified as follows:—

NEW CASES.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	47
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	5
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	13
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	26
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	24
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/> 131 <hr/>

RE-EXAMINATIONS.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	29
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	11
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	6
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	20
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	44
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 122 <hr/>

(d) **Nose and Throat Defects.**

94 cases of enlarged tonsils and adenoids received operative treatment under the Authority's Scheme compared with 106 last year. In addition, 7 cases—recommended through the School Medical Service—had operations; the cost of these was borne by certain firms in the Borough. Of the 101 cases, in 91 cases the operation was performed at the Ear and Throat Hospital, and in the other case, at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, and 9 cases at Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge. Non-operative cases of nose and throat defects are referred to private medical practitioners.

(e) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

An Aural Clinic is held at Carlyle Road, Rowley Regis, and during the year 11 sessions have been held, at which 128 children have received treatment and 168 attendances were made.

(f) **Dental Defects.**

Every effort is made at every possible opportunity to stress to parents and children alike the importance of a clean mouth. Constant dental supervision is necessary to ensure this, and the teeth should be inspected every six months and any necessary treatment carried out.

(g) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

Treatment is provided at the Royal Cripples' Hospital and at the "Woodlands" Open-Air Hospital and School, Birmingham.

The number of school children treated under the Authority's Scheme was 21. 14 received treatment as out-patients, and 2 cases received treatment as in-patients, whilst two other cases received treatment as both in-patients and out-patients. The result of treatment of these defects has been very good.

An arrangement exists between the Education Committee and the Dudley Education Committee by which massage and exercises can be given to children from this Borough at "The Firs," Dudley, the cost being the same as at the Royal Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham. During 1941, 5 cases received treatment at Dudley. This arrangement is much more convenient for residents in certain parts of the area, and saves the Education Committee a certain amount of expense in travelling fares for necessitous cases.

Four of the cases treated at "The Firs," Dudley, were also treated as out-patients at the Royal Cripples' Hospital.

Appliances were supplied during the year in 7 cases.

The School Nurses visit the cases which have ceased to attend hospital before their treatment has been completed and these visits often stimulate the parents to persevere in attendance.

(h) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

These cases are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment.

Rheumatic children are kept under regular observation at the School Clinics, but are referred to their private medical practitioners for treatment.

(i) **Tuberculosis.**

As stated earlier in the report, cases are referred for diagnosis and treatment to the Dudley Tuberculosis Dispensary of the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee. The Tuberculosis Officer indicates if exclusion from school is desirable, and, if so, for what length of time. This exclusion is then confirmed by the School Medical Officer. Sanatorium treatment is also arranged by the Joint Committee.

(j) **Other Defects and Diseases.**

Most of the defects are treated by private medical practitioners, and cases of acute disease, when seen at the School Clinics, are referred at once to private medical practitioners.

V. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) Ascertainment.

In addition to the cases compulsorily notifiable, a weekly report is made by the Head Teachers of the non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as German measles, mumps and chicken pox, and home visits are made by the nurses, advice being given on general hygiene and on the prevention of infection.

The Head Teachers made the following reports during the year 1941, as compared with 1940:—

	1941	1940
Measles	413	89
Mumps	155	135
Chicken-pox	92	39
Scarlet Fever	16	18
Whooping Cough	63	101
Diphtheria	13	8
German Measles	13	30

These weekly reports by the Head Teachers are valuable information as to the prevalence of non-notifiable diseases. If it were not for them the only information available would be the return of deaths from the diseases in question.

(b) Prevention of Infectious Disease.

The exclusion of children follows strictly on the lines set forth in the circular of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health. The particulars of children excluded are forwarded to the Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officers on the day of exclusion. As far as is practicable, co-operation has been arranged with the Sunday Schools, and the Sanitary Inspector supplies lists of contacts.

(c) Disinfection.

Each house in which a case of notifiable infectious disease is reported is visited by a Sanitary Inspector; instructions are given, disinfectants supplied and fumigation of clothing carried out.

(d) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Facilities were available for school children to be immunised against diphtheria at the School Clinics; 228 being immunised during 1941.

(e) School Closure.

No action has been found necessary, but individual children are excluded as required.

(f) Hospital Treatment.

Arrangements are made to hospitalise cases of infectious disease where it is necessary to prevent the spread of disease or where specialised treatment and nursing are needed.

VI. OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

(a) Playground Classs.

In the summer months open-air classes are held in Haden Hill Park, with very good results.

(b) Open-air Classrooms in Public Elementary Schools.

A covered playground in which classes could be held is provided at the Rowley Regis Senior Boys' School.

VII. PROVISION OF MEALS.

The Authority's scheme for the provision of free milk meals, which came into force in 1932, is still in operation. Most of the children receiving free milk show definite benefit.

A table is given below showing for each month the number of individual children fed, and the total number of free milk meals supplied:—

Month			Individual Children Fed	Total number of Free Milk Meals Supplied
January	...	...	408	7,299
February	...	...	373	13,239
March	...	...	420	15,880
April	...	...	512	11,205
May	...	...	447	17,692
June	...	...	413	10,158
July	...	...	425	17,094
August	...	...	—	—
September	...	...	372	13,802
October	...	...	401	14,730
November	...	...	358	9,602
December	...	...	391	6,992

VIII, IX, X, XI. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

This has been obtained as in previous years. Parents attended Medical Inspections as follows:—

		Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers
1940	...	57.54%	66.86%	16.827%
1941	...	64.18%	65%	25.92%

XII. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(a) Ascertainment.

The School Nurses and the School Attendance Officers co-operate in this matter, cases being referred to the School Clinics. Assistance has been rendered by the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare and the Secretary's Report will be found below:—

(b) Arrangements made for Supervision of Mentally Defective Children not in Special Schools.

All such children are supervised and routine visits are made by the School Nurses and School Attendance Officers. Occasional visits are also paid by Officials of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare. The Occupation Centre at Old Hill, although primarily for ineducable defectives, also dealt with a few educable cases which are for some reason unsuitable for a Public Elementary School.

(c) Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare.

“ Report on Work carried out for the Rowley Regis Education Committee during 1941.”

“ I have pleasure in reporting that all work previously undertaken for Rowley Regis Education Committee has been continued in 1941.

“ There have been 25 children on the books during the year, 4 are classified as educable in special schools and 4 have been notified as ineducable to the County Council during the year, of these one helps at home and three attend the Occupation Centre, one has since been admitted to an institution. One child has died. Six became 16 years old during 1941, nine children are at work. 90 visits have been paid to the children's' homes, and twenty interviews on their behalf have been held. Parents have, as a general rule, warmly welcomed the help and advice offered by our Visitor, and one feels that the work is well worth while. War conditions have inevitably made themselves felt in every household, and the work this year has presented several special features. It has been easier for retarded children to find work on leaving school, and wages are higher for juvenile labour, parents have been advised to place their defective children in stabilised employment most suited to their capacity. Home visiting has been made more difficult by the fact that many mothers are now employed on war work, and many find it difficult to secure that their children are not left alone for some hours after school before the working day ends.

“ Eight children from the area have attended the Occupation Centre, of these one has died and one child has been admitted to an institution. Much help and encouragement has been given to the work of the Centre by the Old Hill Centre Committee, whose

Chairman is Mr. W. H. Mitchell, and Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Pittaway. Two days' outings were arranged in the summer to the Dudley Zoo and Wombourne as the usual summer camp holiday could not be held.

"In April a lecture was arranged at Dudley by Miss Ruth Thomas, Educational Psychologist to the Central Association for Mental Welfare, on the needs of retarded children. All teachers from Rowley Regis were invited to attend. The fact that the retarded children everywhere form as much as 15% of the school population is exercising the minds of educationists concerning their care and training; increasing incidence of petty offences and anti-social behaviour has led to the opening of several Child Guidance Clinics since the war began, to give help in investigating the causes and in treatment of delinquent and problem children. The need for a clinic in Staffordshire has long been felt.

"We are very grateful to the Rowley Regis Education Committee for their increased support, and for their continued co-operation in our work on behalf of the feeble-minded children in the Borough."

F. H. TOSH,

Secretary, Staffs. Association for Mental Welfare.

(d) **Day Open-Air Schools.**

Rowley Regis does not possess an Open-Air School.

XIII. PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

Parents, according to an approved scale of income, contribute towards the cost of treatment at the Children's Hospital and the Ear and Throat Hospital, Birmingham.

Cases treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics pay a small charge for ointment, dressings, etc.

XIV. HEALTH EDUCATION.

Systematic instruction in hygiene is given in the majority of the schools, whilst in other Departments, incidental references are made in the course of the general work.

The Health and Cleanliness Council supplied literature which was distributed to the children in the schools.

XV. SPECIAL ENQUIRIES.

No special enquiries have been made.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Year ended 31st December, 1941.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	550
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	380
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	355
						—
Total						1285
						—

Number of other Routine Inspections ... —

Grand Total ... 1285

B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 1456

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year in Routine Age Groups up to 31st August, 1941.

Age groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	550	134	24.36	330	60.0	81	14.73	5	0.91
Second Age-group	380	90	23.68	223	58.68	63	16.58	4	1.05
Third Age-group	355	107	30.14	193	54.37	53	14.93	2	0.56
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1285	331	25.76	746	58.05	197	15.33	11	0.86

TABLE III.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 248

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Defect or Disease. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Other-wise. (3)	Total. (4)
Errors of Refraction (including squint).	239	—	239
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.). ...	14	—	14
Total ...	253	—	253

	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed	178	—	178
(b) Obtained	10	165	175

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children who were—

(i) Inspected by the Dentist:

Aged:

Routine Age Groups	5 ...	282	}	Total ...	3356
	6 ...	317			
	7 ...	335			
	8 ...	350			
	9 ...	395			
	10 ...	433			
	11 ...	355			
	12 ...	394			
	13 ...	406			
	14 ...	89			

Specials 120

Total Routine and Specials ... 3,476

(2) Number found to require treatment 3105

(3) Number actually treated 1492

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 1893

(5) Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection 17

Treatment 228

—— Total ... 245

(6) Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth 339

Temporary Teeth 52

—— Total ... 391

TABLE IV.—continued.

(7)	Extractions:—								
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	882					
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	2882					
				—	Total ...	3764			
(8)	Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions					1145			
(9)	Other Operations:—								
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	32					
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	3					
				—	Total ...	35			

TABLE V.

Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by School Nurses	...	...	...	..	...	3
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	10340
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean				...	821	
(iv)	Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	—	
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:						
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	—	
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	—	

TABLE VI.
BLIND CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution
Nil	—	—	—	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution	At no School or Institution
Nil	—	—	—	—	—

